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House Resolution 515

By: Representatives Williams of the 89th, Watson of the 91st, Stephenson of the 92nd, Abrams of the 84th, Mangham of the 94th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Illai Kenney; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Ms. Illai Kenney, a senior attending Jonesboro High School in Clayton County,
- 3 Georgia, was selected to receive the "Highest Honor Award" by the National Council of
- 4 Negro Women, Inc., sponsors of the Bethune Recognition and Awards Ceremony to be held
- 5 on March 17, 2007; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Illai Kenney will long be remembered as the young nine year old who
- 7 addressed the '98 Million Youth Movement with her inspirational speech; and
- 8 WHEREAS, she is also a celebrated community leader, having cofounded the Georgia Kids
- 9 Against Pollution (GA KAP) as a middle school student, and thanks to the efforts of leaders
- 10 like Ms. Kenney, GA KAP is now one of the most active KAP chapters in the nation,
- working diligently to educate and encourage citizens to work for cleaner air and water; and
- WHEREAS, Ms. Kenney's many extraordinary accomplishments have earned her numerous
- 13 awards and recognitions; she has been honored as a 2005 African American Pioneer in Water
- 14 and Environmental Sciences: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow; her work has been featured
- in the BBC News, the National Wildlife Federation's Ranger Rick Magazine in the "Kids in
- 16 Action" feature, Teen People Magazine, Sierra Club Magazine, and Time Magazine; and she
- is also the 2003 recipient of the Brower Youth Award for young environmental activists; and
- 18 WHEREAS, she is deeply committed to community involvement as demonstrated by her
- 19 membership in many civic groups and organizations, including the Bioneers, the New
- 20 Leaders Initiative, and Black Youth Vote Kids; and
- 21 WHEREAS, Illai Kenney is a model for young people in her community and state and
- 22 empowers others around her through her example of courage, hard work, and success, and

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1 it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this amazing

- 2 young lady be appropriately recognized.
- 3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 4 the members of this body commend Ms. Illai Kenney on her success and outstanding
- 5 accomplishments, extend to her their sincere appreciation for the work that she has done for
- 6 the citizens of Georgia, and offer her the best wishes of each member of this body for success
- 7 in future endeavors.
- 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 9 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Ms. Illai Kenney.